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DRL/MLGA FOR LYNN SICADE
EUCOM ALSO PASS AFRICOM

E.O. 12958: DECL: 9/11/2018

TAGS: PHUM PREL UN CV

SUBJECT: CAPE VERDE DEMARCHED ON USG UNGA HUMAN RIGHTS PRIORITIES

REF: STATE 95334

CLASSIFIED BY: Marianne Myles, Ambassador, AMEMBASSY PRAIA,
State.

REASON: 1.4 (b), (d)

¶11. (U) Per Reftel, Post delivered USG priorities for United Nations General Assembly Third Committee 2008 on Human Rights to the Prime Minister of Cape Verde and the Acting Director General of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs.

¶12. (C) Ambassador presented reftel points to Prime Minister Jose Maria Neves on September 3. Neves had no position on Iran, Burma, or the DPRK resolutions. Neves indicated that Cape Verde has long been out in front on the issue of Zimbabwe, supporting in its public remarks the rights for freedom of speech and freedom of the press. Cape Verde will again make known its position within the African Union, where Neves says Cape Verde will continue to take a strong line. Neves also indicated that, although he is not traveling to New York, he will be closely monitoring the debates within the African Union. Comment: Unspoken but implicit is that Cape Verde will follow the AU lead outside of those private deliberations, and is unlikely to break ranks with its fellow African countries in confronting this challenge. End Comment.

¶13. (U) DCM presented reftel points to Acting Director General of Foreign Affairs Edna Barreto on September 10. Barreto took USG positions on board, but offered no substantive reply, indicating variously that she did not know or could not provide a GOCV position on either the country resolutions or the thematic resolutions raised reftel. Barreto undertook to pass USG points to Director General Jose Luis Rocha, who will be one of the GOCV senior delegates to this year's UNGA (accompanying Foreign Minister Jose Brito and President Pedro Pires). Post will report any questions or comments received from the GOCV prior to the start of the 2008 UNGA.

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